



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



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VIETNAM

COUNTRY PROFILE

Vietnam has undergone a dramatic economic transformation to become a lower middle-income country. However, a variety of challenges hamper the country's global integration and inclusive growth. Our development assistance supports the development of a strong, prosperous, and independent Vietnam that contributes to international security; engages in free, fair and reciprocal trade; and respects human rights and the rule of law.

USAID programs in Vietnam support the country's continued development by focusing resources where they are needed most, in economic growth and governance, civil society, higher education, health security, social services for vulnerable populations, and environment.

OUR WORK

Vietnam's efforts to open its economy to global trade and investment have contributed to high growth rates over the past two decades and drastic reductions in poverty – from nearly 60 percent of the population in the 1990s to under five percent in 2018. Nevertheless, key challenges to sustainable growth remain. USAID works with Vietnam to strengthen economic governance; expand access to quality higher education; control transmission of HIV/AIDS and address threats to global health security; improve the welfare of persons with disabilities; and address environmental challenges, including biodiversity conservation and dioxin contamination.

ENHANCING TRADE AND GROWTH

To drive economic progress and address governance constraints to development, USAID promotes legal reform and transparency in law-making, accountability, access to information, and increased competitiveness. These improved capabilities contribute to increased public participation while supporting Vietnam's further integration into global markets. In the last 10 years, USAID support to improve

economic growth and trade has helped Vietnam rewrite over 180 laws and regulations affecting commercial activities and related judicial procedures and the country's ranking jumped from 82 to 68 in the World Bank's *Doing Business* 2018 report – Vietnam's highest increase in the past decade. Through a new generation of programs, USAID is helping to level the playing field by streamlining customs and trade procedures, and strengthening linkages between Vietnamese small and medium enterprises and global value chains. Having already impacted more than 30,000 students, USAID is helping Vietnam produce job-ready graduates, skilled to compete in a global market. USAID's Higher Education projects focus on technology and engineering, medicine, and liberal arts.

HEALTH AND DISABILITIES

Under the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), USAID activities to prevent HIV and treat and care for people living with the disease reach over 90,000 people in Vietnam, including through active civil society partnerships. USAID's Global Health Security-related assistance combats highly pathogenic avian influenza and other pandemic threats. Since 2010, USAID has improved the welfare of over 30,000 persons with disabilities, by providing higher quality services, advocacy support and promoting public policies that protect their rights and provide systematic services.

ENVIRONMENT

Vietnam is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change. USAID helps the government and private sector develop and implement strategies in promotion of renewable energy, forest preservation, and biodiversity conservation. At Vietnam's request, USAID has completed the clean up of dioxin-contaminated soil and sediment at Danang Airport decades after war and is beginning clean-up of Bien Hoa airbase outside Ho Chi Minh City.



Forest rangers are trained with USAID support to use GPS mapping for forest monitoring and conservation.

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Parents learn how to provide home-based rehabilitation for their children with disabilities through training supported by USAID.

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